



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT: Jason Bearce

317.464.4400 x. 119

jasonb@che.in.gov

## State workforce deputy to join staff of higher education commission

INDIANAPOLIS – Gina DelSanto, the current Senior Deputy Commissioner for the Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD), will join the staff of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education (CHE) on April 30 as a Senior Associate Commissioner and Chief of Staff.

Prior to assuming her present position at DWD in 2009, DelSanto served as an Associate Provost at Butler University among other positions spanning the fields of academia, government and policy.

"College completion has become the critical link to meeting Indiana's education and workforce development demands, and Gina's experience in both arenas makes her uniquely qualified to help us meet this challenge," said Teresa Lubbers, Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education. "I know our Commission members and staff share my enthusiasm regarding Gina's wealth of expertise and the critical contributions she'll bring to our team as we work together to realize the goals of our new *Reaching Higher, Achieving More* strategic plan."

DelSanto will play a vital role at the Commission as it assumes expanded responsibilities in response to a new Indiana law that created a unified state agency charged with overseeing public higher education policy, college financial aid and for-profit higher education.

In addition to the merger with the State Student Assistance Commission of Indiana (SSACI) and the Commission on Proprietary Education (COPE), CHE is working to meet other new mandates to streamline college credit requirements and transfer policies while pursuing related reforms outlined in the agency's recently adopted *Reaching Higher, Achieving More* strategic plan.

"The Commission, in collaboration with the state's universities, has developed a strategic plan to ensure that all Hoosiers have the opportunity to complete an affordable, high-quality, postsecondary credential," said DelSanto. "I look forward to working with Commissioner Lubbers, the staff and the members of the Commission at this exciting time in the evolution of Indiana's system of higher education."

The Indiana Commission for Higher Education is a 14-member public body created in 1971 to define the missions of Indiana's colleges and universities, plan and coordinate the state's postsecondary education system, and ensure that Indiana's higher education system is aligned to meet the needs of students and the state. Visit <a href="www.che.in.gov">www.che.in.gov</a> to learn more about the Commission and its *Reaching Higher, Achieving More* strategic plan.